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February 28, 2003

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Oral Ex Parte Presentation
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR Section 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral *ex parte* presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceeding. On Thursday, February 27, 2003, David LaFuria met with Matthew Brill in Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy's office on behalf of Virginia Cellular, LLC ("Virginia Cellular") and Smith Bagley, Inc. ("SBI"). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the merits of two pending applications for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") status currently before the Commission: (1) Virginia Cellular's application for ETC designation in the state of Virginia and (2) SBI's application for ETC designation on Native American lands in the state of Utah.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,

/s/

David A. LaFuria

cc: Matthew Brill, Esq.